

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE 479
INFO USIA WASHDC
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOC WASHDC
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

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DEPT PASS: SECRETARY VANCE AND LABOR FOR SECRETARY MARSHALL AND
HOROWITZ

USUN FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNGE: COMMERCE FOR SECRETARY KERPS;
WHITE HOUSE FOR BREZEVINSKI, JORDAN, WATSON, EIZENSTAT;
IO FOR ASST SECY MAYNES, DEPUTY ASST SECY DALLEY AND
ALLISON PALMER; L FOR HANSELL; S/IL FOR GOOD; S/P FOR LAKE
USIA FOR RHINEHART.

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: ILO
SUBJ: ILO - G-77 INITIAL REACTION TO POSSIBILITY OF AN EXTENTION
OF NOTICE

REF: A. GENEVA 7145; B. GENEVA 7146

1. DURING A MEETING THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 18, WITH YUGOSLAV
AMBASSADOR LALOVIC, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE G-77, IT WAS CLEAR THAT
LALOVIC HAD ALREADY LEARNED OF THE LEGAL OPINION GIVEN TO THE
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CANADIANS EARLIER IN THE DAY BY THE ILO ON THE POSSIBILITY OF
EXTENDING A NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL (SEE REFTELS). LALOVIC AGAIN
EXPRESSED THE HOPE OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND OF THE G-77 THAT THE
UNITED STATES WOULD NOT FIND IT NECESSARY TO WITHDRAW FROM THE
ORGANIZATION AND HIS BELIEF THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UNITED STATES
COULD INDEED BE ACHIEVED IF THEY WERE PURSUED WITH SOME SENSE OF
FLEXIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO STRUCTURE.

2. I ASKED HIM WHAT HE THOUGH THE REACTION OF THE G-77 WOULD GENERALLY BE TO THE OPTION THAT WAS PRESENTED BY THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING FOR A YEAR OUR NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL. SPECIFICALLY, I ASKED WHETHER HE THOUGHT ANY OF THE G-77 WOULD CHALLENGE THE OPINION OF THE ILO'S LEGAL ADVISOR. LALOVIC REPLIED THAT, IN HIS JUDGMENT, NO RESPONSIBLE MEMBER OF THE G-77 WOULD CHALLENGE THE LEGAL ADVISOR'S OPINION IF DOING SO WOULD MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE UNITED STATES TO REMAIN IN THE ILO. HE SAID, ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE UNITED STATES DID EXERCISE THIS OPTION TO EXTEND ITS NOTICE, THE REACTION OF THE G-77 WOULD DEPEND UPON HOW SUCH AN EXTENSION WERE ANNOUNCED. THAT IS, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF A NOTICE OF EXTENSION COULD BE ASSOCIATED WITH SOME INDICATION OF A MORE FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THIS ADMINISTRATION TO THE KINDS OF ISSUES WITH WHICH THE G-77 HAD BEEN CONCERNED IN THE ILO, PARTICULARLY THE MATTER OF STRUCTURE. HE SAID THAT THE PRESENT NORTH-SOUTH ATMOSPHERE HAD ALREADY BEEN MARKEDLY IMPORVED AS A RESULT OF THE MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE OF THE PRESIDENT WITH RESPECT TO THE CONCERNS OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD. THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE ILO COULD BE CHANGED JUST AS MARKEDLY IF THE UNITED STATES WERE TO BRING INTO THAT ORGANIZATION THE SAME SENSE OF OPENNESS THAT HAD RECENTLY MARKED OUR APPROACH TO NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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